

SENATE BILL 1139

By Tate

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 31; Title 4, Chapter 51; Title 8, Chapter 4; Title 9, Chapter 4; Title 39 and Title 49, relative to certain games of chance.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. There is created a special joint committee to study the following issues relative to permitting casino gambling in the state of Tennessee:

- (1) Feasibility and logistics, including the feasibility of issuing casino licenses;
- (2) Operation and administration of casino control laws that may be in effect in states where casino gambling is authorized; and
- (3) Economic impact of casino gambling on the state of Tennessee.

SECTION 2. The study required by Section 1 shall be limited to regions and other areas of the state of Tennessee other than any county having a population greater than nine hundred thousand (900,000) according to the 2010 federal census or any subsequent federal census, or any municipality located within such county.

SECTION 3. The special joint committee shall consist of three (3) members of the house of representatives and three (3) members of the senate, to be appointed by the respective speakers.

SECTION 4. All appropriate state agencies shall provide assistance to the special joint committee upon request of the chair.

SECTION 5. All legislative members of the special joint committee who are duly elected members of the general assembly shall remain members of such committee until the committee reports its findings and recommendations to the general assembly.

SECTION 6. The special joint committee shall be convened by the member with the most years of continuous service in the general assembly and at its first meeting shall elect a chair, vice chair, and such other officers the committee deems necessary.

SECTION 7. The special joint committee shall timely report its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the 109th general assembly no later than February 1, 2016, at which time the committee shall cease to exist.

SECTION 8. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.